

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-2, 4-15, 17-28, and 30-39 are pending in the present application. Claims 3, 16, and 29 were canceled. Claims 1, 4, 14, 17, 27, and 30 were amended. No claims were added. Claims 1, 14, and 27 were amended to incorporate subject matter from allowable claims 3, 16, and 29. Claims 4, 17, and 30 were made to correct claim dependency and not in response to any art rejection. The scope of claims 4, 17, and 30 has not changed. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. Examiner Interview

Applicant thanks Examiner Schubert for all the courtesies extended Applicant's representative during the August 16, 2006 telephone interview. During the interview, Examiner Schubert indicated that the above amendments to claims 1, 14, and 27 incorporating subject matter from allowable dependent claim 3 would overcome the rejection of claims 1, 14, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103 and result in claims 1, 14, and 27 being allowed. Examiner Schubert also agreed to enter the above amendments after final.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank Examiner Schubert for indicating claims 2-4, 11, 15-17, 24, 28-30, and 37 are allowable. Claims 1, 14, and 27 are amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 3, 16, and 29. Claims 3, 16, and 29 were canceled. Claims 4, 17, and 30 were amended to correct claim dependency. Applicants' respectfully request Examiner Schubert to enter the above amendments to the claims.

Applicants again thank Examiner Schubert for indicating dependent claims 2, 4, 11, 15, 17, 24, 28, 30, and 37 are allowable. Dependent claims 12-13, 18-23, 25-26, 31-36, and 38-39 are dependent upon claims 1, 14, and 27. Therefore, claims 2, 4-13, 15, 17-26, 28, and 30-39 are also allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claims 1, 14, and 27. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that all of claims 1-2, 4-15, 17-28, and 30-39 pending in the subject application are now in condition for allowance.

III. Objection to the Claims

The Examiner has stated that claims 2-4, 11, 15-17, 24, 28-30, and 37 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, independent claims 1, 14, and 27 have been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter from dependent claim 3. Therefore,

claims 2, 4, 11, 15-17, 24, 28-30, and 37 are dependent upon allowable base claims. Thus, the objection to claims 2-4, 11, 15-17, 24, 28-30, and 37 has been overcome.

IV. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over *Bendinelli et al.*, in view of *Pfeiffer* and is now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

/Mari Stewart/

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